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Martijn Willem Maria Kock

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MICHAELSON & ASSOCIATES

P.O. BOX 8489

RED BANK, NJ 07701

EXAMINER

PATEL, ASHOKKUMAR B

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/523,879	Applicant(s) KOCK ET AL.	
	Examiner ASHOK B. PATEL	Art Unit 2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 February 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 27-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-37 are subject to examination. Claims 1-26 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 27-29 and 33-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shoujima (US 5, 754, 778) in view of Adler et al. (hereinafter Adler) (US 6,157,630).

Referring to claim 27,

Shoujima teaches a method of retrieving, through a terminal device, an electronic message from a server, the message having a header and a body containing characters (Abstract), the method comprising the steps of:

establishing a communications link between the server (Fig. 1, element 10) and the terminal device (Fig. 1, element 20, col. 1, line 46-51, "It is an object of the present invention to provide an electronic mail system where all E-mail sent from a mail server can be displayed properly in a display section of a receiving terminal even when the entire E-mail cannot be stored in a memory section because there is little capacity left at a receiving terminal.");

transmitting, by the server to the terminal device, the header and first N characters of the body, where N is a predetermined integer (col. 3, line 14-29,

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“Receiving the sending request signal, the main control section 11 instructs a division control section 13 to divide the E-mail to be sent, which is fetched from the mail storage section 12, in accordance with the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20. The E-mail to be sent is fetched from the mail storage section 12 by the division control section 13 and stored in a divided mail memory section 14 in which the E-mail is divided into a plurality of portions. That is, those portions are stored in the divided mail memory section 14. When each portion of the E-mail stored in the divided mail memory section 14 is sent to the receiving terminal 20, it is first given to and temporarily stored in a sending memory section 16 by a sending control section 15 which is controlled by the main control section 11, provided with a common header section (details explained later), and then sent to the receiving terminal 20 from a sending section 17.”, Col. 2, line 9-13, “Moreover, the dividing means of the mail server preferably divides the electronic mail at a punctuation mark, such as a comma and period. This allows the electronic mail to be divided with no loss in content of the electronic mail. ”) , and at least one flag, the flag indicating whether, as a remaining message part, any remaining characters of the body subsequent to said N characters server (please note that claim itself defines that “the flag indicates whether, as a remaining message part, any remaining characters of the body subsequent to said N characters server.”, Fig. 3, element 30 C, col. 3, line 66- col. 4, line 6, “The E-mail 31 through 39 has at the beginning thereof the header section 30a which is the same as the header section 30a of the E-mail 30. The header section 30a is followed by a divided E-mail identifier 30c. **In this**

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example, the divided E- mail identifier 30c is composed of a symbol, "X-Division", and a fraction representing a mail number. The header section

30a and divided E-mail identifier 30c compose the common header section 30d.")

presenting, by the terminal device, the header, the first N characters and an indication, responsive to the flag and indicating that the remaining message part is then retrievable, to a user of the terminal device (col. 4, line 7-14, "The fraction representing the mail number of the divided E-mail identifier 30c has a denominator representing the total number of the divisions of the main body 30b and a numerator representing the order of the portions from the top of the main body 30b. For example, the mail number 4/9 means that the main body 30b is divided into nine portions and that the fourth portion out of the nine is included in the E-mail of that mail number.");

sending, upon request of the user and in response to the indication, a request to the server to retrieve the remaining message part identified by the flag (col. 6, line 26-37, "FIG. 9 is a flow chart showing an operation algorithm of the reception control section 23 of the receiving terminal 20. Being instructed through an input at the input section 27 by the operator to display the predetermined E-mail stored in the mail server 10 on the display section 26, the receiving terminal 20 requests the mail server 10 to sequentially send the portions of the E-mail. In this case, the mail server 10 determines whether the portions of the E-mail are to be sent in ascending or descending order of the mail numbers according to whether the scroll direction at the display section 26 of the receiving terminal 20 is forward or backward. "); and

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transmitting, in response to the user request and from the server to the terminal device, P characters of the message body P being an integer number and said P characters occurring in the body subsequent to said N characters (col. 6, line 26-37, "FIG. 9 is a flow chart showing an operation algorithm of the reception control section 23 of the receiving terminal 20. Being instructed through an input at the input section 27 by the operator to display the predetermined E-mail stored in the mail server 10 on the display section 26, the receiving terminal 20 requests the mail server 10 to sequentially send the portions of the E-mail. In this case, the mail server 10 determines whether the portions of the E-mail are to be sent in ascending or descending order of the mail numbers according to whether the scroll direction at the display section 26 of the receiving terminal 20 is forward or backward. ").

Shoujima fails to teach "**while holding back any attachments**", "or any attachments are then retrievable from the server", and "or a selected one of the attachments."

Adler teaches "**while holding back any attachments**", "or any attachments are then retrievable from the server", and "or a selected one of the attachments (col.2,line 56-62, "A further field is typically' available (but not shown in FIG. 3), this being acc field, indicating other recipients of the message. The attachment 303 can be included within the body of the message, or there may be an information field in the header 301, indicating the existence of the attachment and (optionally) the nature of the attachment.")

Evidently, both Shoujima and Adler are concerned about 1) the “limited memory” in the email receiving client or terminal and 2) usage of network at the following citations in their teachings respectively.

Shoujima col. 4, line 36-54, “Then, the division control section 13 determines a limit memory size L ($L > 0$) of the portion according to the size H required for the common header section 30d and the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20. In other words, since the portion to be sent to the receiving terminal 20 is provided with the common header section 30d, the limit memory size L of the portion is determined by subtracting the size H of the common header section 30d from the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20 (Step 13).

As the operator inputs through the input section 27 an instruction to display the E-mail on the display section 26, the receiving terminal 20 is arranged to display the portion of the E-mail on the display section 26. Therefore, when the limit memory size L is larger than the memory size (display memory size) of the memory section 24 corresponding to the display capacity of the display section 26 (Step 14), the limit memory size L is set to be equal to the display memory size (Step 15).

Adler, col. 4, line 63-col. 5, line 2, “Preferably, the first few lines of text are all that is sent upon receipt of the view command. In this manner, the network 202 is not tied up and overused by having to send the entire text 302 of the e-mail message. Similarly, the memory 406 of the device 200 (which is very

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limited) is not congested with lengthy e-mail message text and with attachments.

A limit of 300 characters is a suitable limit.”

Therefore, it would have been obvious to use the teachings of Adler “to hold **back any attachments** ‘ and any attachments are then indicated just as a flag shown by Adler which are retrievable from the server”, and “a selected one of the attachments” can be retrievable from the server upon a click along with the teachings of Shoujima since the combined system of retrieving the e-mail from the mail server provides the solution, for two-way pagers, portable computers, PDAs, mobile phones, smart phones using the modern wireless technology at the same time lacking the memory resources, with predictable results of a problem that is raised by Adler such as “In this manner, the network 202 is not tied up and overused by having to send the entire text 302 of the e-mail message. Similarly, the memory 406 of the device 200 (which is very limited) is not congested with lengthy e-mail message text and with attachments.”

Referring to claim 28,

Shoujima teaches the method recited in claim 27 wherein the at least one flag comprises a first flag indicative of any remaining characters (Fig. 3, element 30 C, col. 3, line 66- col. 4, line 6, “The E-mail 31 through 39 has at the beginning thereof the header section 30a which is the same as the header section 30a of the E-mail 30. The header section 30a is followed by a divided E-mail identifier 30c. In this example, the divided E- mail identifier 30c is composed of a symbol, "X-Division", and a fraction representing a mail number. The

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header section 30a and divided E-mail identifier 30c compose the common header section 30d.”)

Shoujima fails to teach “ a second flag indicative of any attachments.”

Adler teaches “a second flag indicative of any attachments.” (col.2,line 56-62, "A further field is typically' available (but not shown in FIG. 3), this being acc field, indicating other recipients of the message. The attachment 303 can be included within the body of the message, or there may be an information field in the header 301, indicating the existence of the attachment and (optionally) the nature of the attachment.”)

Evidently, both Shoujima and Adler are concerned about 1) the “limited memory” in the email receiving client or terminal and 2) usage of network at the following citations in their teachings respectively.

Shoujima col. 4, line 36-54, “Then, the division control section 13 determines a limit memory size L ($L > 0$) of the portion according to the size H required for the common header section 30d and the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20. In other words, since the portion to be sent to the receiving terminal 20 is provided with the common header section 30d, the limit memory size L of the portion is determined by subtracting the size H of the common header section 30d from the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20 (Step 13).

As the operator inputs through the input section 27 an instruction to display the E-mail on the display section 26, the receiving terminal 20 is arranged to display the portion of the E-mail on the display section 26. Therefore, when

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the limit memory size L is larger than the memory size (display memory size) of the memory section 24 corresponding to the display capacity of the display section 26 (Step 14), the limit memory size L is set to be equal to the display memory size (Step 15).

Adler, col. 4, line 63-col. 5, line 2, "Preferably, the first few lines of text are all that is sent upon receipt of the view command. In this manner, the network 202 is not tied up and overused by having to send the entire text 302 of the e-mail message. Similarly, the memory 406 of the device 200 (which is very limited) is not congested with lengthy e-mail message text and with attachments. A limit of 300 characters is a suitable limit."

Therefore, it would have been obvious to use the teachings of Adler "to hold **back any attachments** ' and any attachments are then indicated just as a flag shown by Adler which are retrievable from the server", and "a selected one of the attachments" can be retrievable from the server upon a click along with the teachings of Shoujima since the combined system of retrieving the e-mail from the mail server provides the solution, for two-way pagers, portable computers, PDAs, mobile phones, smart phones using the modern wireless technology at the same time lacking the memory resources, with predictable results of a problem that is raised by Adler such as "In this manner, the network 202 is not tied up and overused by having to send the entire text 302 of the e-mail message. Similarly, the memory 406 of the device 200 (which is very limited) is not congested with lengthy e-mail message text and with attachments."

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Referring to claim 29,

Shoujima teaches the method recited in claim 27 further comprising the step, performed by the server, of determining a value of the integer N (Fig. 4, col. 4, line 15 - col. 5, line 67).

Referring to claim 33,

Keeping in mind the teachings of Shoujima, Shoujima fails to teach the method recited in claim 27 wherein the terminal device is a mobile handset or a PDA.

Adler teaches the method recited in claim 27 wherein the terminal device is a mobile handset or a PDA (Fig. 4, element 200, "col. 2, line 32-34, "The radio device 200 may be a two-way pager or a portable computer with radio capability, for example, a portable computer having a modem.")

Evidently, both Shoujima and Adler are concerned about 1) the "limited memory" in the email receiving client or terminal and 2) usage of network at the following citations in their teachings respectively.

Shoujima col. 4, line 36-54, "Then, the division control section 13 determines a limit memory size L ($L > 0$) of the portion according to the size H required for the common header section 30d and the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20. In other words, since the portion to be sent to the receiving terminal 20 is provided with the common header section 30d, the limit memory size L of the portion is determined by subtracting the size H of the common header section 30d from the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20 (Step 13).

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As the operator inputs through the input section 27 an instruction to display the E-mail on the display section 26, the receiving terminal 20 is arranged to display the portion of the E-mail on the display section 26. Therefore, when the limit memory size L is larger than the memory size (display memory size) of the memory section 24 corresponding to the display capacity of the display section 26 (Step 14), the limit memory size L is set to be equal to the display memory size (Step 15).

Adler, col. 4, line 63-col. 5, line 2, "Preferably, the first few lines of text are all that is sent upon receipt of the view command. In this manner, the network 202 is not tied up and overused by having to send the entire text 302 of the e-mail message. Similarly, the memory 406 of the device 200 (which is very limited) is not congested with lengthy e-mail message text and with attachments. A limit of 300 characters is a suitable limit."

Therefore, it would have been obvious to use the teachings of Adler "to hold **back any attachments** ' and any attachments are then indicated just as a flag shown by Adler which are retrievable from the server", and "a selected one of the attachments" can be retrievable from the server upon a click along with the teachings of Shoujima since the combined system of retrieving the e-mail from the mail server provides the solution, for two-way pagers, portable computers, PDAs, mobile phones, smart phones using the modern wireless technology at the same time lacking the memory resources, with predictable results of a problem that is raised by Adler such as "In this manner, the network 202 is not tied up and overused by having to send the entire text 302 of the e-

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mail message. Similarly, the memory 406 of the device 200 (which is very limited) is not congested with lengthy e-mail message text and with attachments."

Referring to claim 34,

Claim 34 is a claim to a system for retrieving electronic messages in accordance with the method of claim 27. Therefore claim 34 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 27.

Referring to claim 35,

Claim 35 is a claim to a system for retrieving electronic messages in accordance with the method of claim 25. Therefore claim 35 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 25.

Referring to claim 36,

Shoujima teaches the terminal device for use in the system recited in claim 34, wherein the terminal device is capable of establishing a communications link with a server (the server (Fig. 1, element 10) and the terminal device (Fig. 1, element 20, col. 1, line 46-51, "It is an object of the present invention to provide an electronic mail system where all E-mail sent from a mail server can be displayed properly in a display section of a receiving terminal even when the entire E-mail cannot be stored in a memory section because there is little capacity left at a receiving terminal."), receiving a header and first N characters of a body of a message, and at least one flag indicative of any remaining characters of the body or any attachments (col. 3, line 14-29, "Receiving the sending request signal, the main control section 11 instructs a division control section 13 to divide the E-mail to be sent, which is fetched from

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the mail storage section 12, in accordance with the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20. The E-mail to be sent is fetched from the mail storage section 12 by the division control section 13 and stored in a divided mail memory section 14 in which the E-mail is divided into a plurality of portions. That is, those portions are stored in the divided mail memory section 14. When each portion of the E-mail stored in the divided mail memory section 14 is sent to the receiving terminal 20, it is first given to and temporarily stored in a sending memory section 16 by a sending control section 15 which is controlled by the main control section 11, provided with a common header section (details explained later), and then sent to the receiving terminal 20 from a sending section 17.”, Col. 2, line 9-13, “Moreover, the dividing means of the mail server preferably divides the electronic mail at a punctuation mark, such as a comma and period. This allows the electronic mail to be divided with no loss in content of the electronic mail. ”, please note that claim itself defines that “the flag indicates whether, as a remaining message part, any remaining characters of the body subsequent to said N characters server.”, Fig. 3, element 30 C, col. 3, line 66- col. 4, line 6, “The E-mail 31 through 39 has at the beginning thereof the header section 30a which is the same as the header section 30a of the E-mail 30. The header section 30a is followed by a divided E-mail identifier 30c. **In this example, the divided E- mail identifier 30c is composed of a symbol, "X-Division", and a fraction representing a mail number.** The header section 30a and divided E-mail identifier 30c compose the common header section 30d.”), the terminal device being arranged for requesting, in response to said at

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least one flag, the server to send P characters or a selected one of the attachments, P being an integer number and said P characters occurring in the body subsequent to said N characters. (col. 6, line 26-37, "FIG. 9 is a flow chart showing an operation algorithm of the reception control section 23 of the receiving terminal 20. Being instructed through an input at the input section 27 by the operator to display the predetermined E-mail stored in the mail server 10 on the display section 26, the receiving terminal 20 requests the mail server 10 to sequentially send the portions of the E-mail. In this case, the mail server 10 determines whether the portions of the E-mail are to be sent in ascending or descending order of the mail numbers according to whether the scroll direction at the display section 26 of the receiving terminal 20 is forward or backward. ", col. 4, line 7-14, "The fraction representing the mail number of the divided E-mail identifier 30c has a denominator representing the total number of the divisions of the main body 30b and a numerator representing the order of the portions from the top of the main body 30b. For example, the mail number 4/9 means that the main body 30b is divided into nine portions and that the fourth portion out of the nine is included in the E-mail of that mail number.").

Referring to claim 37,

Keeping in mind the teachings of Shoujima, Shoujima fails to teach the method recited in claim 27 wherein the terminal device is a mobile handset or a PDA.

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Adler teaches the terminal device recited in claim 36 wherein the device is arranged for use in mobile telephony. (Fig. 4, element 200, “col. 2, line 32-34, “The radio device 200 may be a two-way pager or a portable computer with radio capability, for example, a portable computer having a modem.”)

Evidently, both Shoujima and Adler are concerned about 1) the “limited memory” in the email receiving client or terminal and 2) usage of network at the following citations in their teachings respectively.

Shoujima col. 4, line 36-54, “Then, the division control section 13 determines a limit memory size L ($L > 0$) of the portion according to the size H required for the common header section 30d and the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20. In other words, since the portion to be sent to the receiving terminal 20 is provided with the common header section 30d, the limit memory size L of the portion is determined by subtracting the size H of the common header section 30d from the available capacity in the memory section 24 of the receiving terminal 20 (Step 13).

As the operator inputs through the input section 27 an instruction to display the E-mail on the display section 26, the receiving terminal 20 is arranged to display the portion of the E-mail on the display section 26. Therefore, when the limit memory size L is larger than the memory size (display memory size) of the memory section 24 corresponding to the display capacity of the display section 26 (Step 14), the limit memory size L is set to be equal to the display memory size (Step 15).

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Adler, col. 4, line 63-col. 5, line 2, “Preferably, the first few lines of text are all that is sent upon receipt of the view command. In this manner, the network 202 is not tied up and overused by having to send the entire text 302 of the e-mail message. Similarly, the memory 406 of the device 200 (which is very limited) is not congested with lengthy e-mail message text and with attachments. A limit of 300 characters is a suitable limit.”

Therefore, it would have been obvious to use the teachings of Adler “to hold **back any attachments** ‘ and any attachments are then indicated just as a flag shown by Adler which are retrievable from the server”, and “a selected one of the attachments” can be retrievable from the server upon a click along with the teachings of Shoujima since the combined system of retrieving the e-mail from the mail server provides the solution, for two-way pagers, portable computers, PDAs, mobile phones, smart phones using the modern wireless technology at the same time lacking the memory resources, with predictable results of a problem that is raised by Adler such as “In this manner, the network 202 is not tied up and overused by having to send the entire text 302 of the e-mail message. Similarly, the memory 406 of the device 200 (which is very limited) is not congested with lengthy e-mail message text and with attachments.”

4. Claims 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shoujima (US 5, 754, 778) in view of Adler et al. (hereinafter Adler) (US 6, 157,630), as applied to claim 27 above, and further in view of Nakaoka (US 2001/0007992 A1)

Referring to claim 30,

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Keeping in mind the teachings of Shoujima and Adler as stated above, both of these references fail to teach the method recited in claim 27 further comprising the step, performed by the server, of erasing the message once no further text and no further attachments remain to be transmitted to the terminal device.

Nakaoka teaches transferring of the message at Figs. 14-20, element 212, and at para. [0061] In the present embodiment, an address "nakaoka@keitai.ne.jp" of the mobile phone 8 is appointed as a transfer address. [0062] Further, the mail transfer command section 17 confirms whether or not an attached file is present (155) and confirms whether or not a deletion of an attached file is set (156). When set, a command for deleting the attached file is issued to the mail transmission section 12 of the mail server device 1 (156). Confirmation is also made whether or not the maximum number of transfer characters is set (17). When set, a command for limiting the maximum number of transfer characters is issued to the mail transmission section 12 of the mail server device 1. [0063] In the present embodiment, there is a issued command for deleting an attached file and limiting the maximum number of transfer characters 2000 bytes. [0064] Then, the mail transfer command section 17 issues to the mail transmission section 12 of the mail server device 1 a command for transferring E-mail received by the mobile phone 8 (159), and E-mail is preserved in the mail memory section 19 of the mail server device 9 without inconvenience. [0065] Further, the mail transfer command section 17 also confirms whether or not the deletion of mail after transfer has been set (180).

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When set, the command section 17 issues a command for deleting the transfer mail from the mail memory section 11 of the mail server device 1. [0066] In the present embodiment, since the setting for not deleting the mail after the transfer is made, the mail remains in the mail memory section 11 of the mail server device 1, and the mail can be read out of the client's device 2 even after the transfer. [0067] As described above, according to the E-mail transfer method of the present invention, when the described matter of the body of E-mail coincides with the setting conditions, E-mail can be transferred to a transfer address suitably appointed. Therefore, E-mail received by the client device of a company can be transferred to the client device at a destination or to the client device at home according to the described contents of the body, and the received E-mail can be processed efficiently. [0068] Further, since the attached file of E-mail can be deleted, and the number of transfer characters can be limited, E-mail received by the client's device of a company can be transferred to the mobile phone without inconvenience as it is, and the urgent information or the necessary information described in the body of E-mail received can be transmitted to business staff outside promptly." (wherein the server erases the message after transmitting if there is no remaining text and no attachments.)

Therefore it would have been an obvious to one of an ordinary skill in art, having the combined teachings of Shoujima and Adler, and Nakaoka in front of him at the time of invention was made, to combine their teachings since all of these references teach the methodology on how to transfer or retrieve the messages on the terminal devices having limited capacity of storage as well as

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display, and Nakaoka provides additional mechanism to set the user preferences on the mail server on how to handle the transfer of the messages and attachments, such as in a user preferred number of characters, what to do with the messages attachments, whether to keep or delete, after it has been transferred, in fact, supplementing the teachings of Shoujima and Adler and providing the mechanisms and methodology on how to implement the user options that Shoujima and Adler is lacking. When the messages and attachments are deleted upon the transfer, it is obvious that it saves lot of storage space which is an important resource on the mail server or business server.

Referring to claim 31,

Keeping in mind the teachings of Shoujima and Adler as stated above, both of these references fail to teach the method recited in claim 27 further comprising the step, performed by the server, of retaining the message if any remaining text or any attachments have not yet been transmitted to the server.

Nakaoka teaches transferring of the message at Figs14-20, element 212, and at para. [0061] In the present embodiment, an address "nakaoka@keitai.ne.jp" of the mobile phone 8 is appointed as a transfer address. [0062] Further, the mail transfer command section 17 confirms whether or not an attached file is present (155) and confirms whether or not a deletion of an attached file is set (156). When set, a command for deleting the attached file is issued to the mail transmission section 12 of the mail server device 1 (156). Confirmation is also made whether or not the maximum number of transfer

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characters is set (17). When set, a command for limiting the maximum number of transfer characters is issued to the mail transmission section 12 of the mail server device 1. [0063] In the present embodiment, there is a issued command for deleting an attached file and limiting the maximum number of transfer characters 2000 bytes. [0064] Then, the mail transfer command section 17 issues to the mail transmission section 12 of the mail server device 1 a command for transferring E-mail received by the mobile phone 8 (159), and E-mail is preserved in the mail memory section 19 of the mail server device 9 without inconvenience. [0065] Further, the mail transfer command section 17 also confirms whether or not the deletion of mail after transfer has been set (180). When set, the command section 17 issues a command for deleting the transfer mail from the mail memory section 11 of the mail server device 1. [0066] In the present embodiment, since the setting for not deleting the mail after the transfer is made, the mail remains in the mail memory section 11 of the mail server device 1, and the mail can be read out of the client's device 2 even after the transfer. [0067] As described above, according to the E-mail transfer method of the present invention, when the described matter of the body of E-mail coincides with the setting conditions, E-mail can be transferred to a transfer address suitably appointed. Therefore, E-mail received by the client device of a company can be transferred to the client device at a destination or to the client device at home according to the described contents of the body, and the received E-mail can be processed efficiently. [0068] Further, since the attached file of E-mail can be deleted, and the number of transfer characters can be limited, E-mail received

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by the client's device of a company can be transferred to the mobile phone without inconvenience as it is, and the urgent information or the necessary information described in the body of E-mail received can be transmitted to business staff outside promptly." (wherein the server retains the message if any remaining text or any attachments are not yet transmitted.)

Therefore it would have been an obvious to one of an ordinary skill in art, having the combined teachings of Shoujima and Adler, and Nakaoka in front of him at the time of invention was made, to combine their teachings since all of these references teach the methodology on how to transfer or retrieve the messages on the terminal devices having limited capacity of storage as well as display, and Nakaoka provides additional mechanism to set the user preferences on the mail server on how to handle the transfer of the messages and attachments, such as in a user preferred number of characters, what to do with the messages attachments, whether to keep or delete, after it has been transferred, in fact, supplementing the teachings of Shoujima and Adler and providing the mechanisms and methodology on how to implement the user options that Shoujima and Adler is lacking. When the messages and attachments are deleted upon the transfer, it is obvious that it saves lot of storage space which is an important resource on the mail server or business server.

Referring to claim 32,

Keeping in mind the teachings of Shoujima and Adler as stated above, Adler teaches the method recited in claim 27 further comprising the step,

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performed by the server, of storing messages in a mailbox having a limited capacity, (col. 3, line 40-col. 4, line 10, "The host server 205 has virtual client software 206 which interacts with client software in the radio device 200. The virtual client software includes an account table 450, in which account numbers or identifiers in the e-mail server database 430 are correlated with account numbers or identifiers in the public network server 203. Also included in the virtual client software of the host server 205 are a notification agent 455, a message portion handling routine 460 and a command message receiver 465. In operation, users can use the terminals 431 to 433 to generate e-mail messages and send these e-mail messages to each other and to other recipients outside the local area network 435. Where messages are to be sent to other recipients, they can be sent by the server 205 to internet connection 470. A user of a terminal, e.g., terminal 431, can view a page which displays summary information of all his incoming messages and a page summarizing all his outgoing messages. Each of these pages shows the receiver (or sender) of the message, the time and the subject header. This information is presented to the terminal from the e-mail database 430. In the database 430, there is a section allocated to each user. Sections of the database 430 are identified by user account number.(the server (2) stores messages in a mailbox having a limited capacity) Thus, for example, referring to the message of FIG. 3, each of Daddy Bear, Mommy Bear and Baby Bear has an account in the database 430. Each account is identified (in the example given) simply by the account holder's name. These accounts can be referred to as e-mail accounts. If a user of a terminal, e.g.,

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terminal 431, wishes to see a particular message in his account, he can select that message and the server 205 will deliver the entire message, including the entire header and the entire text and all attachments from the database 430 to the terminal 431.", however, Adler fails to teach erasing a partially transmitted one of the messages if additional capacity in the mailbox beyond the limited capacity is required to store the partially transmitted message.

Nakaoka teaches transferring of the message at Figs14-20, element 212, and at para. [0061] In the present embodiment, an address "nakaoka@keitai.ne.jp" of the mobile phone 8 is appointed as a transfer address. [0062] Further, the mail transfer command section 17 confirms whether or not an attached file is present (155) and confirms whether or not a deletion of an attached file is set (156). When set, a command for deleting the attached file is issued to the mail transmission section 12 of the mail server device 1 (156). Confirmation is also made whether or not the maximum number of transfer characters is set (17). When set, a command for limiting the maximum number of transfer characters is issued to the mail transmission section 12 of the mail server device 1. [0063] In the present embodiment, there is a issued command for deleting an attached file and limiting the maximum number of transfer characters 2000 bytes. [0064] Then, the mail transfer command section 17 issues to the mail transmission section 12 of the mail server device 1 a command for transferring E-mail received by the mobile phone 8 (159), and E-mail is preserved in the mail memory section 19 of the mail server device 9 without inconvenience. [0065] Further, the mail transfer command section 17 also

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confirms whether or not the deletion of mail after transfer has been set (180).

When set, the command section 17 issues a command for deleting the transfer mail from the mail memory section 11 of the mail server device 1. [0066] In the present embodiment, since the setting for not deleting the mail after the transfer is made, the mail remains in the mail memory section 11 of the mail server device 1, and the mail can be read out of the client's device 2 even after the transfer. [0067] As described above, according to the E-mail transfer method of the present invention, when the described matter of the body of E-mail coincides with the setting conditions, E-mail can be transferred to a transfer address suitably appointed. Therefore, E-mail received by the client device of a company can be transferred to the client device at a destination or to the client device at home according to the described contents of the body, and the received E-mail can be processed efficiently. [0068] Further, since the attached file of E-mail can be deleted, and the number of transfer characters can be limited, E-mail received by the client's device of a company can be transferred to the mobile phone without inconvenience as it is, and the urgent information or the necessary information described in the body of E-mail received can be transmitted to business staff outside promptly." (but erasing a partially transmitted one of the messages if additional capacity in the mailbox beyond the limited capacity is required to store the partially transmitted message.

Therefore it would have been an obvious to one of an ordinary skill in art, having the combined teachings of Shoujima and Adler, and Nakaoka in front of him at the time of invention was made, to combine their teachings since all of

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these references teach the methodology on how to transfer or retrieve the messages on the terminal devices having limited capacity of storage as well as display, and Nakaoka provides additional mechanism to set the user preferences on the mail server on how to handle the transfer of the messages and attachments, such as in a user preferred number of characters, what to do with the messages attachments, whether to keep or delete, after it has been transferred, in fact, supplementing the teachings of Shoujima and Adler and providing the mechanisms and methodology on how to implement the user options that Shoujima and Adler is lacking. When the messages and attachments are deleted upon the transfer, it is obvious that it saves lot of storage space which is an important resource on the mail server or business server.

Conclusion

Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 am-4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan A. Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ashok B. Patel/

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